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NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B-349-B-C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

June 7, 1976

DD/A Registry
76-2904

Honorable George Bush
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, P.C. 20505

Dear Director Bush:

Thank you for your letter of June 2, 1976. In the study you are presently preparing on your agency's 1953-1973 mail intercept program, I request that detailed replies to the following questions be included:

- 1) What percentage of envelopes photographed or copied, and what percentage of letters photographed or copied, involved mail between this country and the Soviet Union?
- 2) What were the total number of envelopes photographed or copied, and the total number of letters photographed, between this country and the Soviet Union?
- 3) Of these totals, what percentage resulted from watchlists, and what percentage resulted from random selections?
- 4) Did these percentages markedly vary from year to year? (If answer is affirmative, please list annual percentages).
- 5) What was the total number of individuals and organizations on US-USSR mail intercept watchlists, for each year the mail intercept program was in operation?
- 6) What were criteria for placement on this list, and who determined inclusion?
- 7) What was percentage relationship of envelopes and letters randomly selected for inspection, to total numbers of envelopes and letters sent between this country and the Soviet Union?


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- 8) By what criteria and procedures were envelopes that were photographed or copied, or letters that were photographed or copied, indexed or not indexed?
- 9) Were any letters intercepted and returned to sender, without ever being sent to their final destination, i.e. did operations include simulating foreign postal markings? (If affirmative, please specify quantity of communications involved and procedures by which such determinations occurred).
- 10) Were any letters intercepted and retained, i.e. neither forwarded to addressee nor returned to sender? (If affirmative, please specify quantity of communications involved and procedures by which such determinations occurred).
- 11) Was Lee Harvey Oswald (or aliases) on any US-USSR mail intercept watchlist, or any other watchlist, either before or after he renounced his U.S. citizenship before consular officials at the U.S. embassy in Moscow, on October 31, 1959?
- 12) How many envelopes to or from Lee Harvey Oswald (or aliases) were photographed or copied, how many letters to or from Lee Harvey Oswald (or aliases) were photographed or copied, and what was the date of each interception?

I further request that copies of all envelopes and letters photographed or copied involving Lee Harvey Oswald (or aliases), as well as any memoranda, messages, index entries, documents and other records relating to mail intercept or mail cover operations involving Lee Harvey Oswald (or aliases), be promptly supplied this Subcommittee.

Sincerely,


BELLA S. ABZUG
Chairwoman

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